

Addressing  
Human Trafficking  
in **AMERICA'S SCHOOLS**

A Webinar Series by the U.S. Department of Education



# Centering the Experience of Boys, Young Men, and Male Identifying Students in Human Trafficking

September 13, 2023

Audio Settings ^

Chat

Switch between computer or phone audio.

Q&A

View messages and resources broadcasted to you.

CC

Live Transcript

Enter your questions and comments.

Reactions

Let us know how you feel when something during the event resonates with you.

Leave

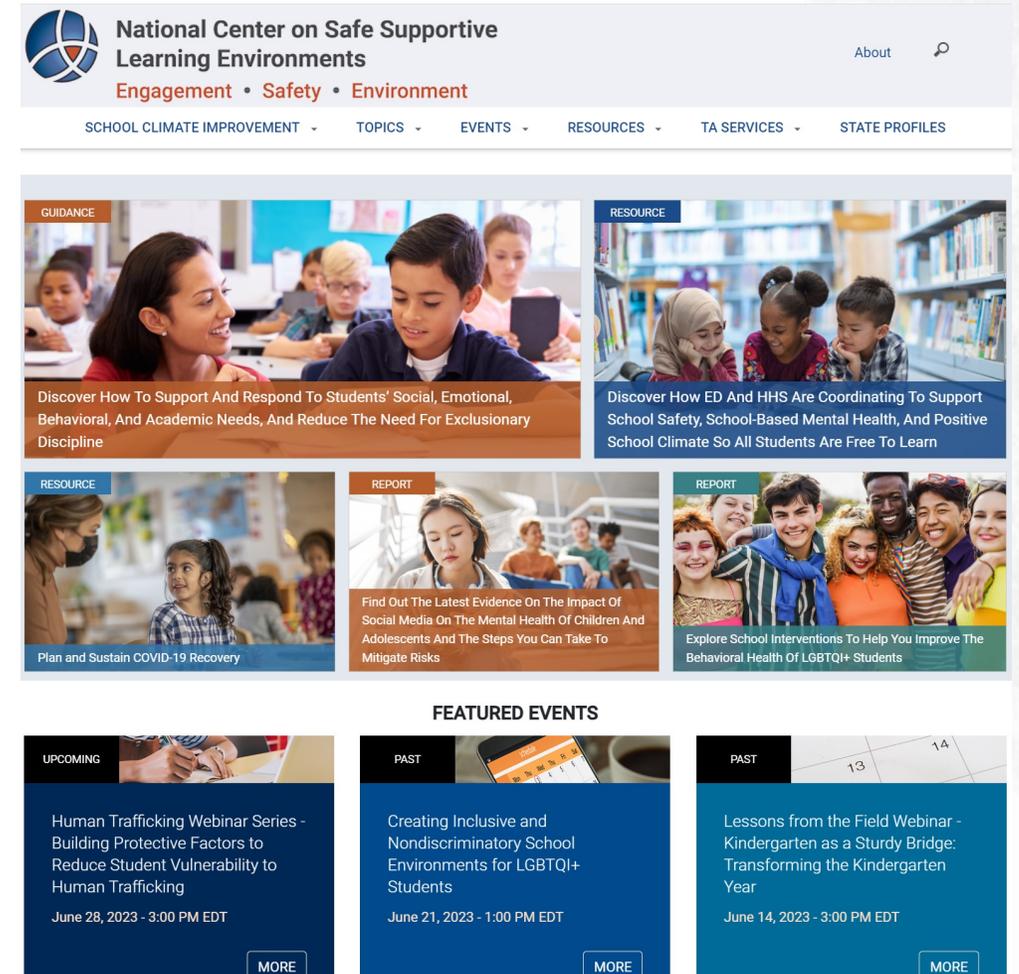
For assistance during the webinar, please contact Shoshana Rabinovsky at [srabinovsky@air.org](mailto:srabinovsky@air.org).



# NCSSLE Website: <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov>



-  School Climate Improvement Resource Package
-  ED School Climate Surveys
-  Trauma-Sensitive Schools Training Package
-  Building Student Resilience Toolkit
-  Human Trafficking in America's Schools
-  Improving Higher Education Learning Environment
-  Supporting Trauma Recovery
-  Promoting Mental Health
-  Responding to Covid-19



National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments  
Engagement • Safety • Environment

SCHOOL CLIMATE IMPROVEMENT • TOPICS • EVENTS • RESOURCES • TA SERVICES • STATE PROFILES

**GUIDANCE**  
Discover How To Support And Respond To Students' Social, Emotional, Behavioral, And Academic Needs, And Reduce The Need For Exclusionary Discipline

**RESOURCE**  
Discover How ED And HHS Are Coordinating To Support School Safety, School-Based Mental Health, And Positive School Climate So All Students Are Free To Learn

**RESOURCE**  
Plan and Sustain COVID-19 Recovery

**REPORT**  
Find Out The Latest Evidence On The Impact Of Social Media On The Mental Health Of Children And Adolescents And The Steps You Can Take To Mitigate Risks

**REPORT**  
Explore School Interventions To Help You Improve The Behavioral Health Of LGBTQ+ Students

**FEATURED EVENTS**

- UPCOMING**  
Human Trafficking Webinar Series - Building Protective Factors to Reduce Student Vulnerability to Human Trafficking  
June 28, 2023 - 3:00 PM EDT
- PAST**  
Creating Inclusive and Nondiscriminatory School Environments for LGBTQ+ Students  
June 21, 2023 - 1:00 PM EDT
- PAST**  
Lessons from the Field Webinar - Kindergarten as a Sturdy Bridge: Transforming the Kindergarten Year  
June 14, 2023 - 3:00 PM EDT

To access previous webinars in the *Human Trafficking Series*, go to <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/human-trafficking-webinar-series>.



# Webinar Agenda

1 Introduction

2 Presentation: Exploitation and Gender – Increasing the Visibility of Cisgender, Transgender, and Gender Nonconforming Youth

3 Panel Discussion 1: Reflections from Staff Working with Students

4 Panel Discussion 2: Reflections from Those with Lived Experience

5 Wrap-Up & Closing

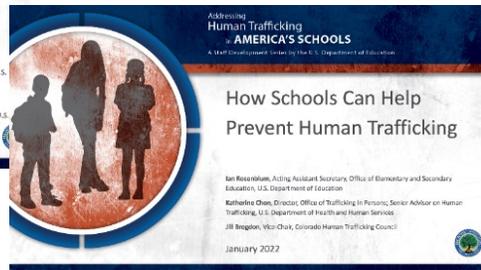
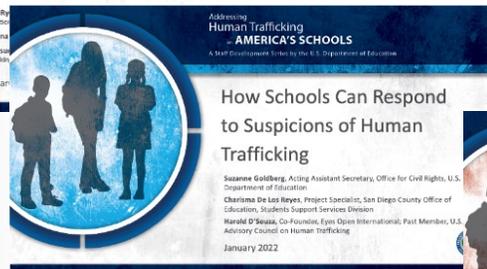
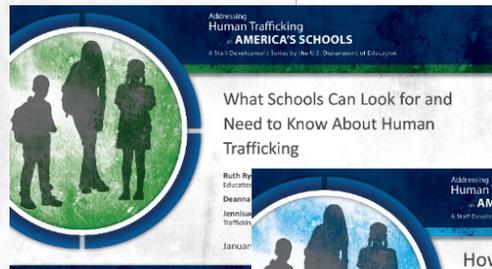
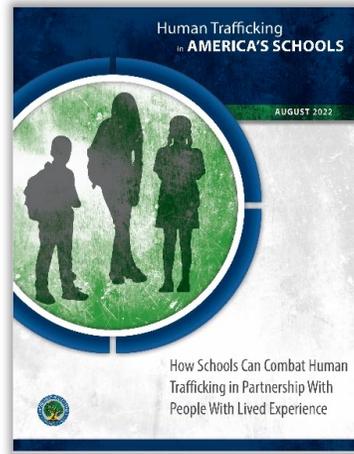
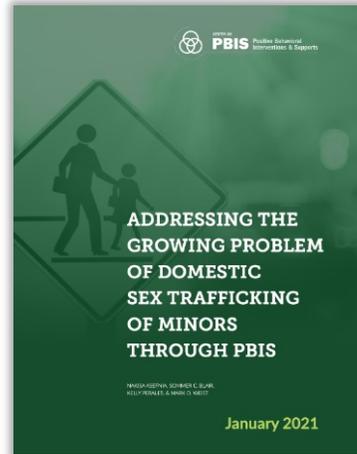
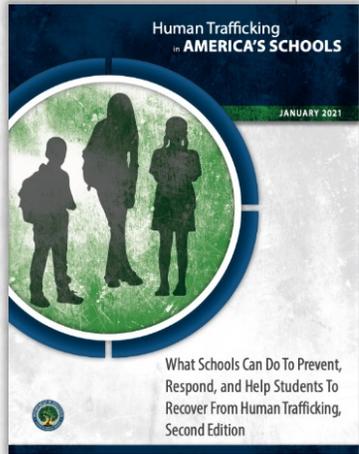
6 Live Q&A



# Carlette KyserPegram

EDUCATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST  
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# Additional Support from the U.S. Department of Education Related to Human Trafficking



U.S. Department of Education

Search...

Student Loans | Grants | Laws | Data

## Human Trafficking

### Combatting Human Trafficking in America's Schools

Of 22,326 trafficking victims and survivors identified through contacts with the National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2019, at least 5,359 were under age 18.<sup>1</sup> Many underage victims of human trafficking are students in the American school system. No community, school, socioeconomic group, or student demographic is immune to the threat of human trafficking. Cases of child trafficking are found in every area of the country—in rural, suburban, and urban settings alike.

The U.S. Department of Education recognizes these facts and stands ready to support America's schools in preventing, responding to, and helping students recover from human trafficking. It is fitting that schools take on this challenge, of all social institutions, schools are perhaps the best positioned to identify and report suspected trafficking and connect affected students to critical services.

To support schools' efforts to combat trafficking, the Department offers helpful resources, for administrators, teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, parents, caregivers, and students

#### How Do I Find...?

- Student loans, forgiveness
- Higher Education Rulemaking
- College accreditation
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- FERPA
- FAFSA
- 1098, tax forms
- More...

#### Information About...

- Transforming Teaching
- Family and Community Engagement
- Early Learning
- Constitution Day

#### Guides

- **Human Trafficking in America's Schools, 2nd Edition** (2021). This guide provides:
  - Awareness of the current prevalence of child trafficking and the forms it takes;
  - Information on risk factors and indicators of child trafficking;
  - Details about three prevention tiers and the implications for schools' role in addressing child trafficking;
  - Information on how professional development of school staff and prevention education for students and families can reduce the likelihood of trafficking; and
  - Details on how policies, protocols, and partnerships with other community sectors can help prevent trafficking.
- **Human Trafficking in America's Schools** (2015). This guide was developed to help school officials:
  - Understand how human trafficking impacts schools;
  - Recognize the indicators of possible child trafficking; and
  - Develop policies, protocols, and partnerships to address and prevent the exploitation of children.

#### Briefs

- **Addressing the Growing Problem of Domestic Sex Trafficking in Minors through Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports** (2021). Particularly relevant to schools or districts currently utilizing multi-tiered systems of supports, this resource provides information on how to utilize such existing support strategies to support students impacted by sex trafficking.

#### Webinars

- **Identifying and Supporting Students Affected by Human Trafficking** (January 2020): This event focused on how to effectively identify and support students impacted by trafficking activity.
- **Human Trafficking: Online Safety** (June 2020): This event focused on trauma-informed and survivor-centered strategies for protecting students from falling prey to online trafficking activity.
- **Addressing Human Trafficking: An Expanded Look at Online Safety** (August 2020): This event

<https://www.ed.gov/human-trafficking>

# Meet Our Speakers

Bios for the panelists are archived at the following location:

<https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/events/webinar/human-trafficking-webinar-series-centering-experience-boys-young-men-and-male>



**David Perry**  
Research Analyst for WestCoast Children's Clinic



**Caroline Greig**  
Project Director of Anti-Trafficking Initiatives at WestCoast Children's Clinic

# Exploitation and Gender

Increasing the Visibility of Cismale,  
Transgender, and Gender Nonconforming  
Youth

Presentation: David Perry and Caroline Greig



**WESTCOAST CHILDREN'S CLINIC**

# WestCoast Children's Clinic

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- Mental health clinic for children and youth
- Training, policy, and research
- Anti-trafficking work
  - C-Change Program
  - Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT)
  - Anti-Trafficking Initiatives

# Terminology

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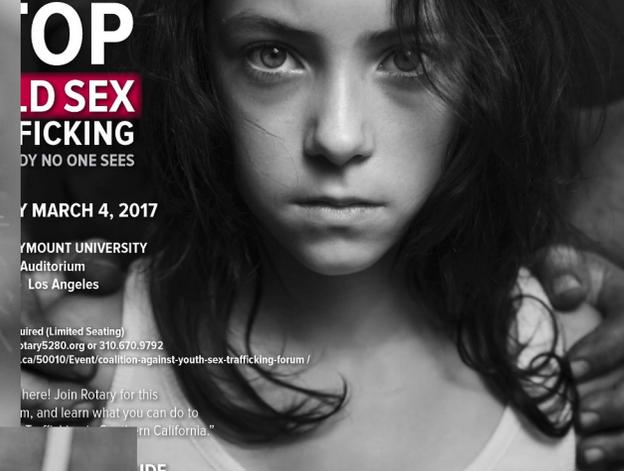
- **CSE** - Commercial sexual exploitation
- **CSEC** - Commercial sexual exploitation of children
- **Trafficking** - Exploitation
- **Providers** - Anyone who works in a child-serving capacity

# Terminology

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- **Boys** - Cisgender male youth or children
- **Gender Nonconforming Youth** - Youth or child who does not conform to traditional gender roles
- **Trans Youth** - Youth or child whose gender identity does not match their sex at birth

**Myth:** Commercial sexual exploitation of children primarily or exclusively affects cisgender girls.



**TOP**  
**CHILD SEX**  
**TRAFFICKING**  
BY NO ONE SEES

MARCH 4, 2017

YMOUNT UNIVERSITY  
Auditorium  
Los Angeles

imited (Limited Seating)  
ary5280.org or 310.670.9792  
ca/50010/Event/coalition-against-youth-sex-trafficking-forum/

here! Join Rotary for this  
m, and learn what you can do to  
in California."

JDE  
ity Sheriff's Department,  
man Nury Martinez.



Sexual Exploitation of Children



# Existing Research - Prevalence of Trafficking

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- No accurate count of overall trafficking prevalence exists.
- Some studies suggest comparable numbers of exploited cisgender boys and girls.
- Trans youth are exploited at higher rates.

# CSE-IT Data

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Data range: April 2015 - June 2023

**281,680 screenings**

**196,678 youth screened**



# What do the CSE-IT data show?

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Data range: April 2015 - June 2023

**15.4%** of all youth who show clear signs of trafficking are **boys**



# What do the CSE-IT data show?

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Data range: April 2015 - June 2023

**One out of six trans-identified youth** screened on the CSE-IT show clear signs of trafficking.



**Myth:** Commercial sexual exploitation of children primarily or exclusively affects cisgender girls.

# What are the consequences?



- Exploited boys and trans youth are not identified by providers.
- Even if identified, there is a severe lack of services for exploited boys and trans youth.
- Male and trans survivors are not reflected in data.

# Study Methods

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- Focus groups and interviews
  - 34 survivors of exploitation and providers who work with exploited youth
  - Wide range of gender identities, locations, professions

**Key Finding #1:** The observable signs of trafficking do not differ by gender.

**Key Finding #2:** Signs of trafficking among boys and trans youth are often missed or ignored by providers.

**Key Finding #3:** Exploited boys and trans youth face cultural and systemic barriers to care.

# What can educators do?



# What can educators do?

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1. Acknowledge exploitation for all genders.
2. Provide training that incorporates all genders.
3. Provide education for youth and caregivers.
4. Implement CSEC screening.
5. Have clear protocols and next steps.
6. Know your resources.
7. Build relationships with cismale, trans, and gender nonconforming youth.

# 1. Acknowledge exploitation for all genders.

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- **Exploitation affects all genders!**
  - Call it out directly.
  - Share knowledge with peers and leadership.

## 2. Provide training that incorporates all genders.

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- **Update CSEC training.**
  - Address myths of gender and exploitation.
  - Presenter gender diversity in examples.

### 3. Provide education for youth and caregivers.

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- **Create conversation.**
- **Incorporate a prevention curriculum.**
  - Caregivers – PTA meetings, workshops, etc.
  - Youth – health class, online content, etc.

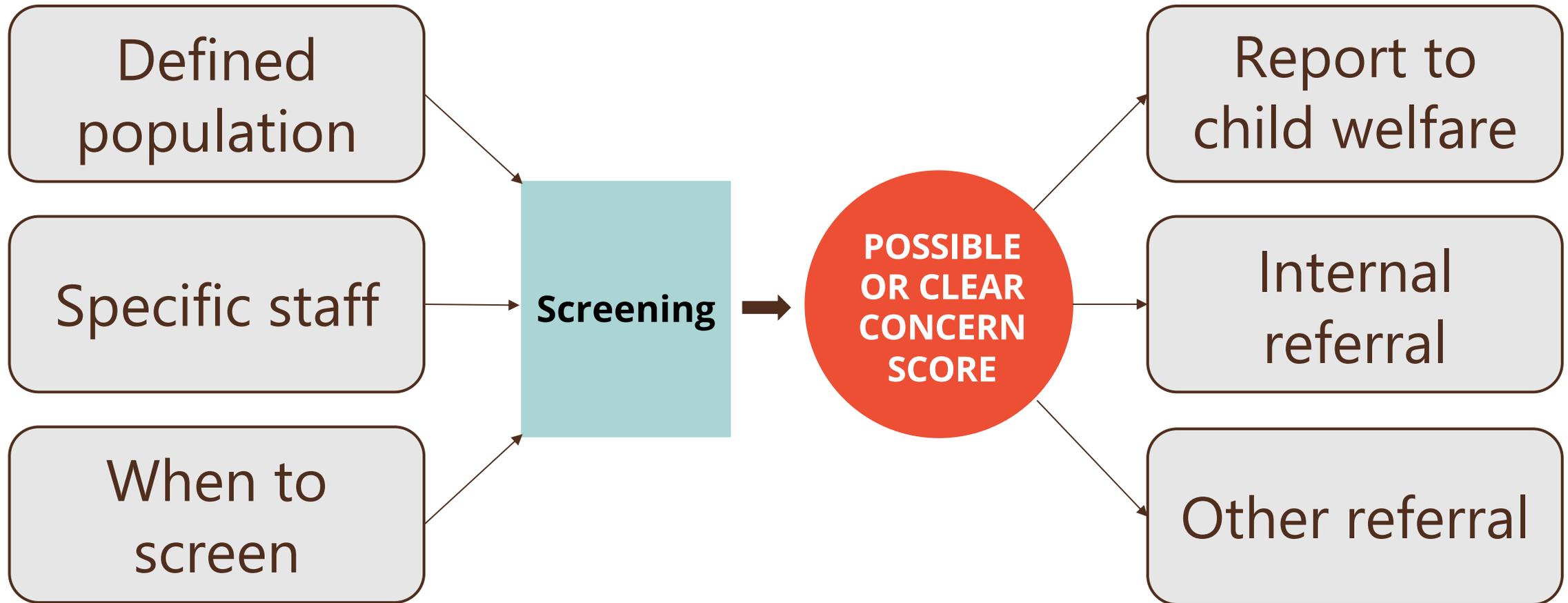
## 4. Implement CSEC screening.

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- **Conduct CSEC screening tool.**
  - Validated
  - Trauma informed
  - Track screening data

## 5. Have clear protocols and next steps.

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## 6. Know your resources.

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- Who is connected to the youth?
- Who are the experts in my school/district?
- What organizations do CSEC/gender affirming work?

# 7. Build relationships with cis-male and trans youth.

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- **Create a foundation for trust.**
  - Improve rapport.
  - Offer non-judgmental support.
  - Create safe and inclusive environments.

# Get in touch!

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CSEC Research: **dperry@westcoastcc.org**

David Perry, Health Data Research Analyst

CSEC Training, CSE-IT: **screening@westcoastcc.org**

Caroline Greig, Project Director Anti-Trafficking Initiatives

# Meet Our First Panel!

Bios for the panelists are  
archived at the following  
location:

[https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov  
/events/webinar/human-trafficking-  
webinar-series-centering-experience-  
boys-young-men-and-male](https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/events/webinar/human-trafficking-webinar-series-centering-experience-boys-young-men-and-male)



**Jodi de la Peña, LCSW**  
Human Trafficking Prevention  
Manager, Oakland Unified School  
District, CA



**José (Peps) Garcia**  
Program Manager, Newcomer  
Safety Initiative, Oakland Unified  
School District, CA

# Meet Our Second Panel!

Bios for the panelists are  
archived at the following  
location:

[https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov  
/events/webinar/human-trafficking-  
webinar-series-centering-experience-  
boys-young-men-and-male](https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/events/webinar/human-trafficking-webinar-series-centering-experience-boys-young-men-and-male)



**Jerome Elam**

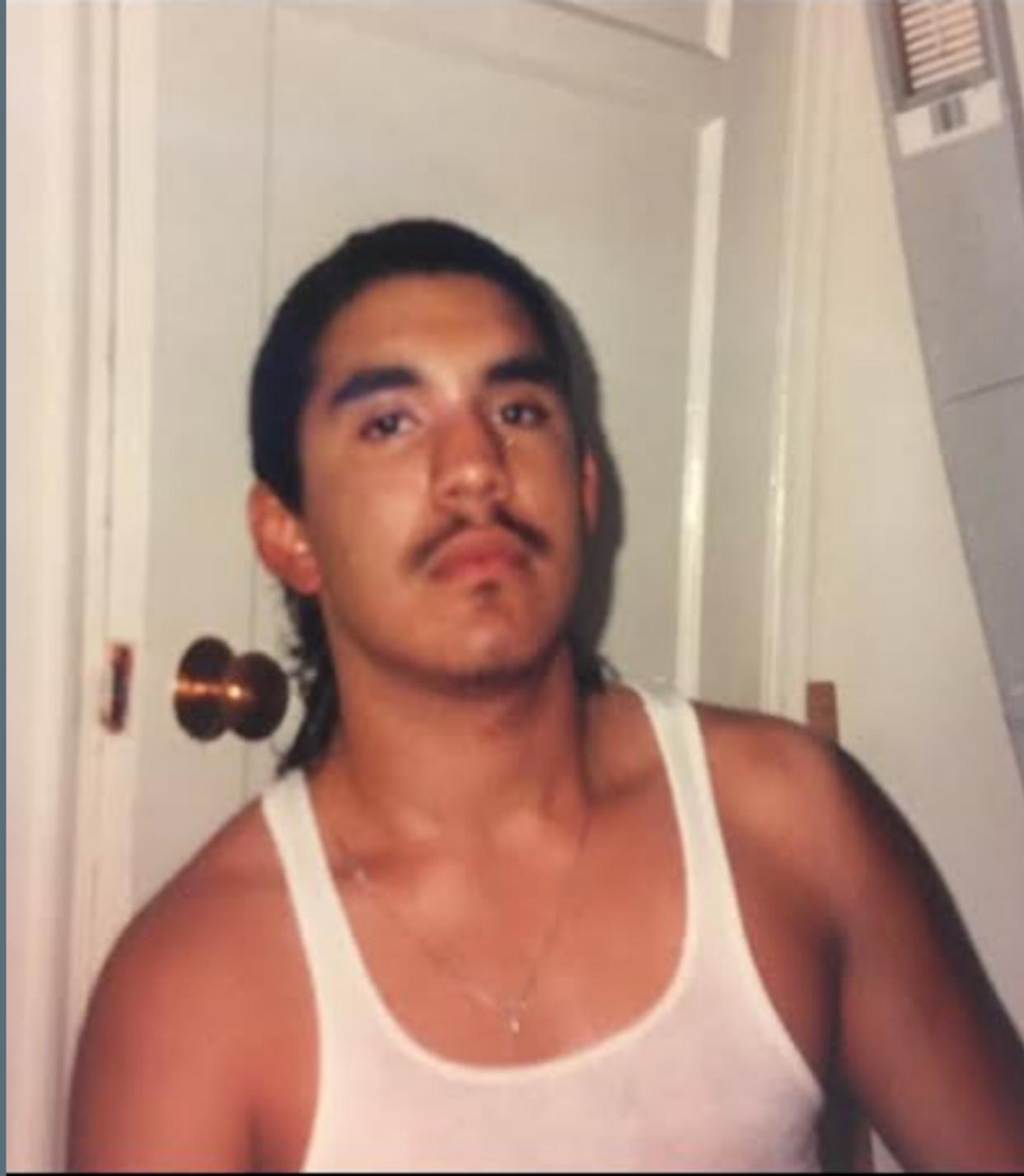
President and CEO Trafficking in  
America Task Force, Survivor  
Leader, FL

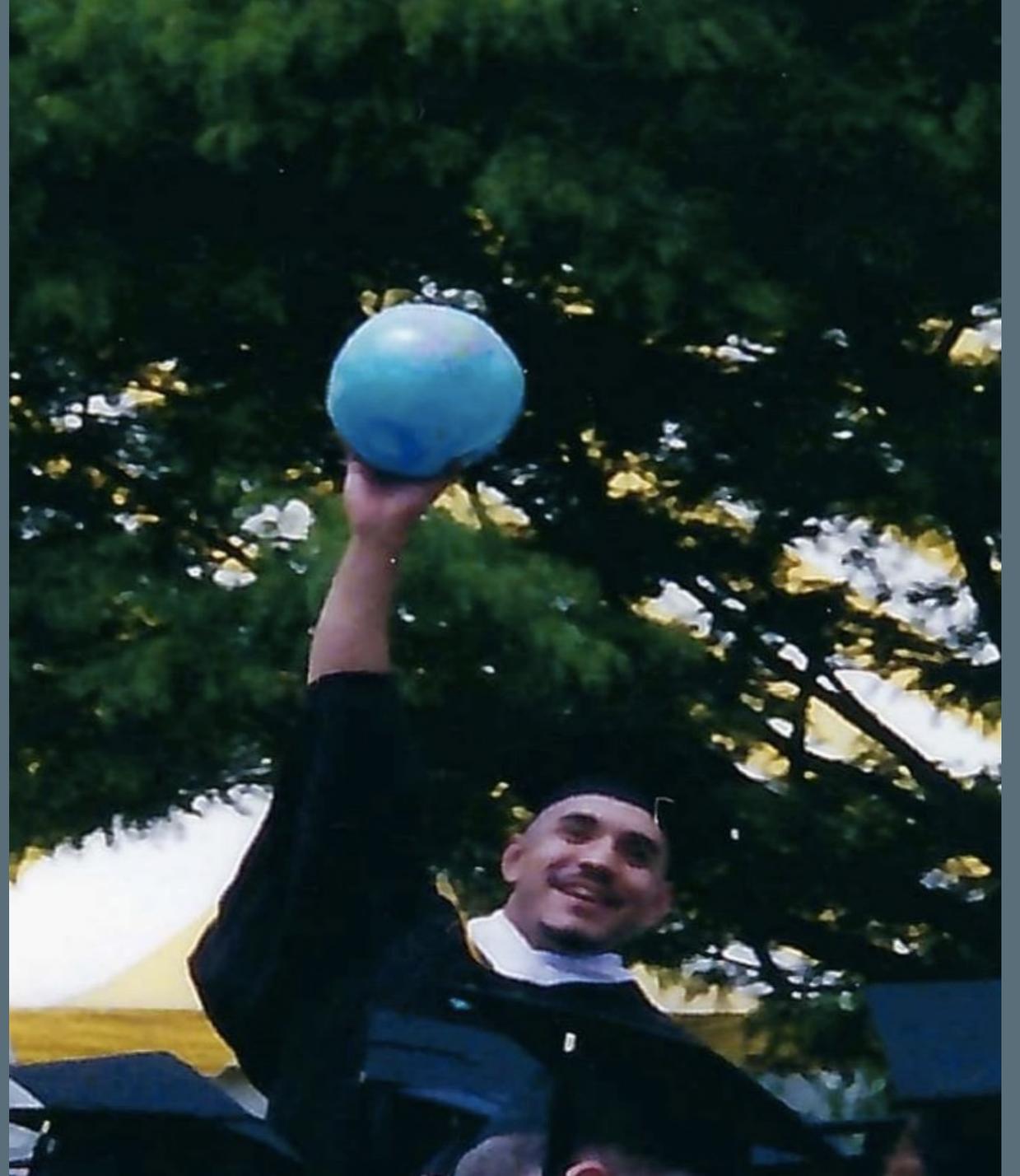
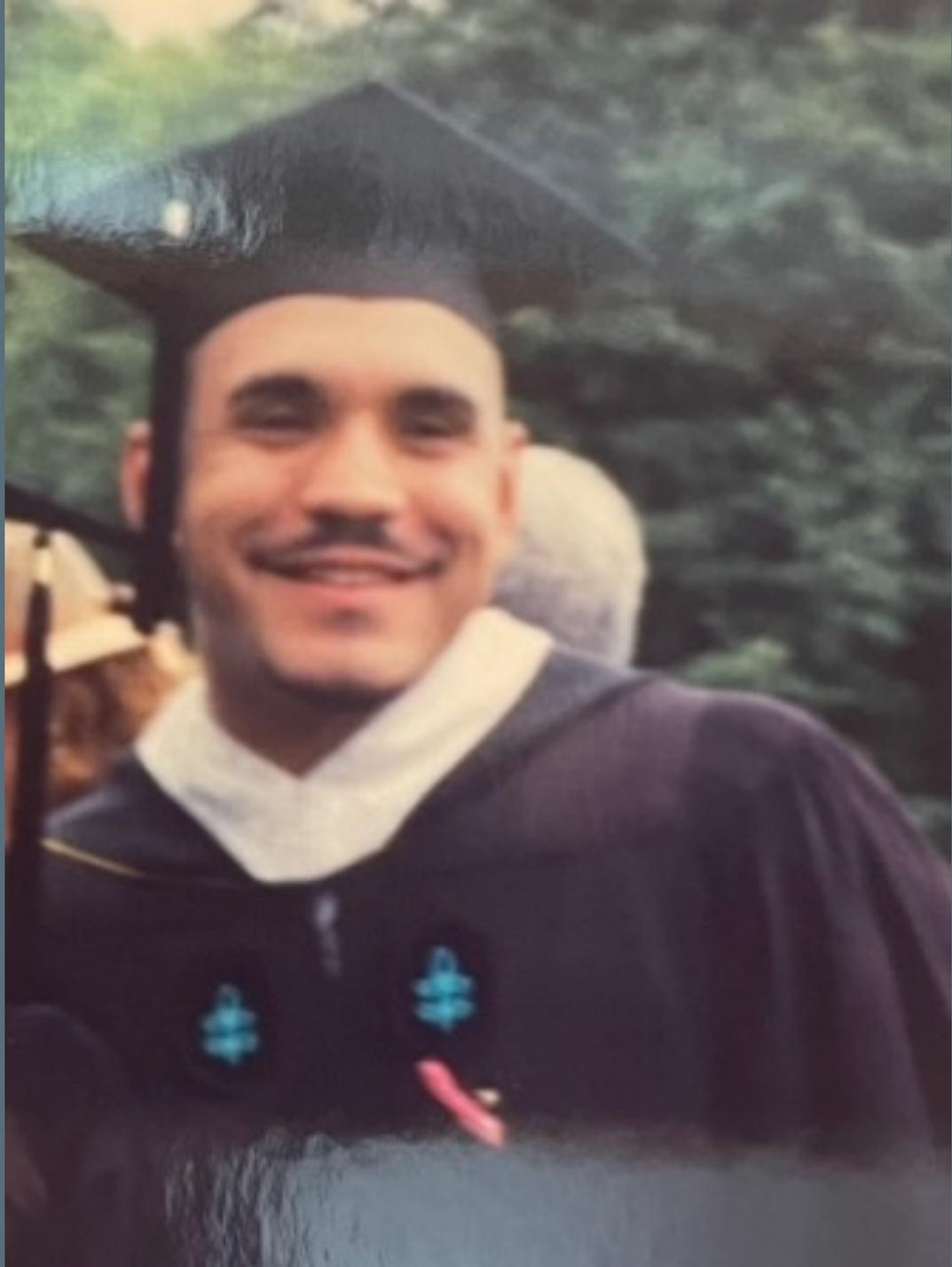


**Jesse Leon**

Author, TedxSpeaker, Lived  
Experience Expert, President of  
Alliance Way LLC







A circular graphic on the left side of the slide contains the silhouettes of three children with backpacks, walking towards the right. The background of the slide is a light, textured grey with a faint grid pattern.

# Thank you!

Need Help? Reach out to NCSSLE at [NCSSLE@air.org](mailto:NCSSLE@air.org).

[Event Webpage](#)

[Webinar Series](#)

[ED's Human Trafficking Webpage](#)

# Upcoming Webinars

## Topic for Upcoming Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation Webinar Series

- **November (TBD):** Child Labor Exploitation



## Topics for Upcoming Lessons from the Field Webinar Series Events

- **September/October:** Miniseries Supporting Students' Social Emotional, Behavioral and Academic Well-Being and Success  
(**9/20 – families; 10/4 – educators and school staff; and 10/18 – student support teams**)
- **October (TBD):** Online harassment, start of Free to Learn Miniseries

# Feedback Form



Human Trafficking  
in **AMERICA'S SCHOOLS**



## Human Trafficking Webinar Series - Centering the Experience of Boys, Young Men, and Male Identifying Students in Human Trafficking

Thank you for attending the webinar, *Centering the Experience of Boys, Young Men, and Male Identifying Students in Human Trafficking*, on September 13, 2023. To best serve you, we would greatly appreciate receiving your feedback on the webinar.

1 Prior to the webinar, how knowledgeable were you about the webinar's topic?

- Not At All Knowledgeable
- Somewhat Knowledgeable
- Very Knowledgeable

2 Overall this webinar was a good use of my time.

- Strongly Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Somewhat Agree
- Strongly Agree

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HTWebinar15>



# Live Q&A